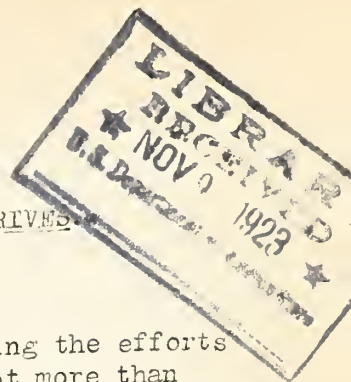


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY



DIRECTIONS FOR ORGANIZING AND CONDUCTING RABBIT DRIVES.

Location of Corral and Wings.

Rabbit drives are necessarily community affairs, enlisting the efforts of old and young alike. Select in each community an area of not more than two sections which is infested with jack rabbits, and in it build a corral. The location of the corral should be close to natural cover, such as brush and rank growths of weeds and grass, as rabbits will enter it more readily there than if placed in the open. The corral should be 50 feet in diameter, with wings extending at least a quarter of a mile from each side of the entrance.

Both corral and wings should be constructed of 2-inch-mesh poultry netting, 36 inches wide. The netting must be held in an upright position by 7/16-inch iron rods 4 feet long, one foot of which is driven into the ground. (See accompanying diagram.) Stock fences and natural barriers should be used where possible in order to reduce cost of construction. They are more convenient and practical for local community drives.

Drive Organizations.

After erecting corral and wings, the next step is to organize the line of beaters. It is advisable to have as many people as possible mounted, to form a line of drive at a point of assembly at least 2 miles from the corral and to hold the center of the line. Those not mounted should be formed near the extreme ends of the wings at a distance not greater than a quarter of a mile from the ends of the wing fences.

The line of drive should present a semicircle with the extreme ends of the lines a quarter of a mile from the end of the respective wings and upon the extended line of the wings. Each beater should carry a stout club about 30 inches long, according to individual preference, for driving and killing rabbits.

The beaters will be in squads of five each, the center member of each squad to be the squad leader. Each squad leader will at all times direct the movement of his squad in close cooperation with other leaders, all under the direction of a marshal, maintaining interval and alignment, and concentrating the movement on the corral.

Making the Drive.

The movement of the line should be slow and steady. At the start of the drive the interval between beaters should be not less than 20 nor more than 35 feet. The alignment and an orderly interval must be maintained at all times. The line of beaters must first be established, and when all are in their respective places they should move forward at a signal given by the marshal.

To obtain the best results, at least three drives should be held in a given area at intervals of not more than ten days. By the use of well-organized

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Drives should be destroyed at a cost of not more than 2 cents each. The use of firearms is not advised, because of the additional cost and the danger of accidents.

TAKE YOUR TIME! DO NOT CROWD THE RABBITS. ALLOW SOME TO DRIFT INTO THE CORRAL AND THE OTHERS WILL FOLLOW. Everyone get into the game to get the rabbits before they take your crops in the spring! Make a great day of it with a general "get-together," and an old-fashioned barbecue between drives.

